SONS OF VETERANS.

Enthusiastic Gathering for the National Encampment.

HEARTY WELCOME GIVEN

Important Business Transacted

NEXT MEETING AT OMAHA

in Convention.

Charles K. Darling Chosen Commander-

in-Chief.

LOYAL HOST CAPTURES THE CITY.

Met with Words of Good Cheer by Hospitable Citizens-Large De egations-Reception in the Capital Parade and Campfire. INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

The Sons of Veterans early this week made their appearance in the good city of Indianapolis, and captured it without a struggle. They pathered for the most interesting National Encampment held in years. Their uniforms added dashes of patriotic color to the scenes on every street. The auxiliary society, the Ludies' Aid, turned out in goodly numbers too. Commander-in-Chief James L. Rake and his Adjutant, H. H. Hammer, both of Reading, Pa., arrived on Wednesday with a large delegation of Sons, and were escorted to their hotel Headquarters, where a number of Delegates had arrived in advance of them. Maj, and Mrs. A. P. Davis, of Pittsburg, also arrived Wednesday. Maj. Davis is the founder of the Sons of Vet- per capita fax from 16 to 20 cents. Carried. erans. Mrs. Davis is Chaplain-in-Chief of the

ed Headquarters carly. charge of the evening's entertainment.

The Capitol interior was prettily bedecked the new administration. to the Governor was Col. I. N. Walker, Past | campment, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army; next were Mrs. Agnes Hitt, Past President of the of an increase of revenue. W.R.C. Commander-in-Chief Rake, of the Sons of Veterans, and Miss Raynor, President of the crease, Ladies' Aid Society. Many hundred people

The parale on Friday afternoon was one of the features of the Encampment, nearly 1,000

participating. The weather was clear and pleasant. The line formed promptly on Alabama street, whence it proceeded by various windings until it reached the reviewing-stand at Circle and Meridian streets. A squad of mounted police came first, fol-

lowed by Chief Marshal Harrold C. Megrew and his Staff. The Chief of Staff was Col. J.

The Governor of Indiana was unable to be present, and was represented in the parade by his Secretary, Col. Charles E. Wilson, who was accompanied by the Governor's Staff. The National officers of the Sons followed on

foot, Gen. James Lewis Rake, Commander-in-The escort of State Militia, under command of Col. Harry B. Smith, came next in line,

headed by a band. The first Division was composed of members of the Grand Army, under command of Comrade N. R. Buckle. George H. Thomas, Alvin P. Hover, Joseph R. Gordon, and George H. Chapman Posts turned out.

The Second Division was composed of Sons, nuder command Col. R. B. Harrison and Staff. First in line were the armed Camps. The delegates who followed the Camps under arms numbered several hundred. Those from Pennsylvania were given the first place, while following them came the representatives of New York, New England, Illinois, Michigan, and remaining States. The delegates from Shelbyville, Nobiesville, and other Indiana towns were noticeably strong.

John F. Ruckle and Benjamin Harrison Camps, of Indianapolis, and the Boys' Brigade, completed the procession,

The Sons of Veterans Camphre at Tomlinson Hall Friday night was well attended, and that there was no lack of enthusiasm was evidenced by the hearty applause that greeted the speakers.

On the platform were United States Senators Fairbanks and Thurston, Gov. Mount, Mayor Taggart, Russell Harrison, Rt. Rev. John Hazen White, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Indiana; J. S. Dodge, Commander of the Department of Indiana; State Senator Thomas Boyd, a Grand Army man and son of a veteran, and

Charles A. Bookwalter presided, and introduced Bishop White, who offered prayer. Gov. Mount, on behalf of the State of Indiana, welcomed the Sons of Veteraus. In concluding

"Sons of Veterans, you have seen the glory war should again burst forth into the fury of | Veteraus. battle, inspired by their patriotism you will in valor the imperishable achievements of your

Mayor Taggart, on behalf of the city of Indianapolis, followed Gov. Mount in an address of welcome. Col. Ira Christian, of Noblesqille, on behalf of the Commandery-in-Chief, re-

United States Senator John M. Thurston, of "There is no honor possible to man which I

in the Camp now in session in this great city, | gard to Constitution and membership. and to march under the Natiou's flag through was a State which did so much to encourage Kate Raynor, and Past Senior Vice Com- new plan of organization. mander-in-Chief Dilley.

FIRST DAY'S SESSION.

Opening the National Encampment-Presentation of the Reports Struggle Over the Increase in the Per Capita.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Sept. 9, 1897. The 16th National Encampment opened promptly at 9 o'clock, with Commander-in-Chief Rake in the chair and the other Na-

tional officers in their places. The meeting was held in the handsome Hall of Representatives of the Indiana State House, which was draped and decorated for the occasion. It is an admirable place for such a meeting, with its lofty, pillared chamber, perfect in acoustics, elegantly furnished, and with an abundance of committee-rooms and other conveniences for a deliberative body.

The attendance was larger than at any previous National Encampment, and the character and ability of the membership being, it is believed, higher.

Substantially all were in complete uniform, and the appearance of the assemblage was one that every veteran and son of a veteran could take a genuine pride in.

The morning was spent in presenting the reports, attending to routine matters, and forming the committees, which were as fol-

THE COMMITTEES. Credentials-H. H. Hammer, Pennsylvania, Committee.

Bolton, Massachusetts; W. W. Bisby, Iowa; privilege of admission to G.A.R. meetings. William De Steese, Wisconsin. Adopted.

Constitution, Rules and Regulations-John Redmond, Kansas; J. E. Hnycroft, Minnesota; D. S. Gardner, Ohio, E. R. Campbell, Mary-

Officers' Reports-Frank P. Merrill, Maine; George B. Abbott, Illinois; W. S. Payne, Ohio; W. E. Bundy, Ohio; W. H. Russell, Kansas, Resolutions-R. M. J. Reed, Pennsylvania; Michael Crowley, New Hampshire; Wallace L. Vanderhoof, New Jersey; H. W. Jones, New

York ; F. L. Shepherd, Illinois. Rituals and Ceremonies-Horace Stillwell, Indiana; George F. Walz, Nebraska. Press-Frank Martin, Chairman, Indiana;

C. D. Rooney, Massachusetts; J. D. Noel, Indi-Officer of the Day-Maj. W. H. White, Mary-

Officer of the Guard-Lieut, G. E. Coggeshall, At the conclusion, the Encampment took a

recess until 4 p. m. The National Encampment reassembled at 4 o'clock. Brother C. Borin, Kan., presented the report of the Council-in-Chief to the effect that they had examined the books and papers, and found them in admirable shape. The National officers were highly complimented. The presenting in the name of the Order a lovingamount of the per capita tax for the ensuing

year was fixed at 20 cents. Adopted. The Committee on Credentials made a supplemental report. The question of the status of Brother Edmundson, a Past Commander of the Indiana Division, was raised. Edmundson had been dropped, and remained so for several years. Then he was remustered, and it is now attempted to give him the honors of a Past Commander. Brother Loebenstein made an

argument against Edmundson. Brother Noel, Ind., said that the matter had been passed upon by the Knoxville National Encampment, and a decision made in favor of Edmundson. Therefore it was settled, and not within the jurisdiction of this Encamp-

Brother Martin, Ind., went over the same ground, and recited how the matter had been investigated and passed upon by various officials and Encampments, and decided in favor of Edmundson.

Brother McGuire, Ind., advocated the right of Edmundson to a seat. and Edmundson given his seat.

THE PER CAPITA. Commander De Puv. Md., moved to reconider the Eucampment's action in raising the Junior Vice Commander Buckley explained Ladies' Aid Society. Kate G. Raynor, National | the need of more revenue to meet the Com-President of the Ludies' Aid Society, establish- mander-in-Chief's expenses as the reason for

recommending the increase. A reception given by the Governor and his Quartermaster-Gen. Loebenstein explained staff to the Delegates and other visitors on | that the surplus had steadily decreased since Thursday night was the first pleasant event of | Commander-in-Chief Weeks's administration importance. The Local Reception Committee, from \$5,000 until now, after the payment of of which W. H. Armstrong was Chairman, had | the expenses of this Encampment were paid, there would be but about \$75 in the hands of

with festoons of bunting for the occasion, and He believed it the part of wisdom to raise splendid music was furnished for the occasion. | the per capits tax now, and avoid having a The Governor headed the receiving line. Next | deficiency to meet at the next National En-

> Brother Borin, Kan., showed the necessity Brother Parkinson, N. Y., supported the in-

Brother Harvey, Ind., strongly opposed the increase, which, he said, meant ruin to some of the Divisions.

Brother Clarkson, Neb., supported the in-Brother Noel, Ind., opposed the increase, as putting a new and unexpected burden upon the

Brother Jones, Ohio, opposed the increase. He felt that it would be very injudicious. It would take 40 per cent, of the revenue of the Divisions, It would be a burden that would result in diminishing the revenue rather than increasing it. It would be vastly better to reduce the expenses of the Commandery in some

Brother Reed, Pa., said he never knew a suspension of a charter on account of an increase in the per capita tax. Brother Campbeil, Md., moved to lay the

matter on the table until other committees reported. Adopted. Adjournment until 9 o'clock to-morrow.

SECOND DAY'S SESSION.

Reception of Past Commander-in-Chief Walker and Admiral Brown Visit from the Ladies. Changes in the Constitution and Rules. Resolutions - Presentations to Col Walker.

The Commander-in-Chief called the Encampment to order at 10 o'clock. Past Commanderin-Chief I. N. Walker, G.A.R., and Admiral Frown were introduced, welcomed by the Comunder-in-Chief, and received with applause. The Adjutant-General read a number of communications expressing deep interest in

e proceedings; also, a number of invitations. The report of the Committee on Peace Monuments was read. This was a committee created | fancy, such as assail all young Orders. It was by the Knoxville Encampment to confer with | outgrowing these. What was needed was a similar committee of the Confederate Sons work. Good work would bring up the Order of Veterans to consider the project of raising | again, as it brought it up before. The thing to monuments on certain battlefields. Some cor- do was to take off coats and go to work. He was Association," to erect monuments to the com- its members preferred it to any other. mon soldiers who fell in the war of secession. Brothers Spink, Borin, Darling, Patton and

a delegation from the Ladies' Aid Society. Baldwin, Miss Madge Howey, and Miss Buckley | let it alone. were ushered in and received with words of welcome and appreciation by the Commander-

behalf of the Order. Miss Laura M. Martin of your fathers' heroism. If the dark clouds of ton also responded on behalf of the Sons of The consideration of the report of the Comthe incoming administration was directed to

> Divisions for consideration. Brother Gardner, Ohio, submitted the report | reportedof the Committee on Constitution, Rules and

Regulations. The report was comprehensive and radical, and was discussed seriatim. The first recommendation indorsed the recomwould prize more highly than my right to sit | mendations of the Commander-in-Chief in re-Brother Gardner explained that it seemed

your streets with the Sons of Veterans. I am | the opinion of the majority of the Command- | Commander-in-Chief Walker, comrades of the especially glad to be in this State, because it ery that there should be radical changes made. G.A.R., and the citizens of Indianapolis for It would be impossible to consid the men at the front and protect those in the | those changes in a session of the Commandery, | tional Encampment an enjoyable success, rear." He concluded with eloquent words of | Therefore it was thought best to create a com- | Adopted by a rising vote. encouragement for the Sons. Other speakers | mittee of 25, composed of the oldest and most were Senator Fairbanks. Department Com- experienced members, who should take the able and impartial performance of his duties. mander J. S. Dodge, National President, L.A.S., propositions into consideration and formulate a Adopted by a rising vote.

Brother Maccabe said he thought the plan of abolition of almost everything.

The Commander-in-Chief demurred to this. There was something wrong, as was shown by the fact that in the past 16 years there had been | accepted the gift for the Order. over 200,000 members initiated, with but 32 .-000 now remaining in the Order. The Committee had simply recommended an investigation into the causes, and invited the suggestion of a remedy.

Brother Russell thought that the adoption of the report only indorsed the ordering of a revision, without necessarily changing the fundamental laws of the Order. Brother Oberdorf, N. Y., dissented. The doption of the report would mean making the

Communander-in Chief's recommendations the law of the Order. He moved to refer the report back to the committee for a more explicit report.

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS. Brother Reed, Pa,, reported:

Requesting the reinstatement of certain Captains, Adverse, Recommending the reinstatement of Past Division Commander White, of New Jersey. Adopted.

Favorable to giving Past Captains of the Post system the same rank in the Order upon entering. This referred more particularly to Camps in New Jersey. Adopted. In favor of restoring the old ritual. Brother

Maccabe moved to amend by giving an option as to the use of ritual. Referred to the Ritual Chairman; H. E. Cowdin, Michigan; F. E. | Adverse to the resolution requesting the

> of CASTORIA. sufficient. Adopted.

o'clock.

AN AMPODMENT. Adverse to an insurance feature. Adopted. In favor of a reform in the school histories Brother Bundy moved the an endment of of the country in reference to the history of Section 20, by making the use of the ritual optional, but retaining the obligation. Adopted. the rebellion. In favor of appointing a committee of five on patriotic teaching to co-oper-

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

ate with a similar committee of the G.A.R. ports of Officers and Distribution of Work, Judge Marsh, of the G.A.R. Committee on complimented the officers highly on the manner School Histories, made a few remarks, setting in which they had performed their several forth that his committee's examination of school histories showed that in none of the histories in duties. No recommendation was made in the matter use was it set forth that the war was really a of restoring honors to Past Commander Hop-

struggle between a Government and portion of kins, of Pennsylvania. the people in revolt, but rather as an athletic An animated debate easued on the question contest between the North and South, with the of restoring lost honors, which was participated showing generally in favor of the South. He in by Brothers Macerbel Reed, Abbott, Dilley, proceeded to give a number of illustrations of Loebenstein, and others... this. He made a forcible presentation of the The honors were restored to Brother Hopkins.

The recommendation of the Division of Penn-Brother Christian, Ind., made an impassioned sylvania for the restoration of eligibility to speech demanding that secession and treason membership to Wm. H. Schuler, of Williamse made odious. He was the son of a soldier port, Pa., was agreed to. A number of similar requests were presented, Past Commander-in-Chief Walker was again and generally concurred in. introduced and enlogized by the Commander-

THE TIETZIE CASE.

which had not been submitted to the Com-

mander-in-Chief and his Judge-Advocate-Gen-

eral, and claimed this to be disrespectful to him.

make a rule. Each of these cases must be set-

discharge. The applicant's father served in

The Commander-in-Chief said that there was

COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS.

THE COMMITTEE ON MILITARY RESERVE.

Committee and introduced into Congress; re-

commended that a new Committee be formed

to draft a new bill to present to Congress.

MADE A LIEE MEMBER.

ana Division, that the rules be suspended and

Bre. Bookwalter be elected a life member, in

recognition of his eminent services in prepar-

ing the entertainment for the 16th National

A MEMORIAL COLLEGE.

AN AMENDMENT TO FLIGIBILITY CLAUSE.

descendants of soldiers, sailors and marines

who served during the war, and died, or were

Bro. DePny. Md., moved an amendment to

the soldiers of the Union. Adopted.

National Encampment to meet there.

election be made unanimous. Carried.

of Massachusetts.

nation of Darling.

NOMINATIONS FOR COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Brother Maccabe, Mass., nominated Darling,

Brother Shepherd, Ill., seconded the nomi-

Brother Wilson, Iowa, withdrew the name of

Brother Morrow, Ky., withdrew the name

The other Divisions, as they were called, did

Brother Wilson, Iowa, moved the suspension

Past Commanders-in-Chief Russell and

He was received with tumultuous applause.

He returned his thanks in a few heartfelt

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

George E. Cogswell, of Mich. No other nomina-

tions appearing, he was elected by acclamation.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

recognition of that, Brother Jos. W. Noel, of

Ind., for Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief. He

COUNCIL-IN-CHIEF.

H. H. Hammer, Pa., was elected a member

C. Born, Kan., was elected the second mem-

Brother Haycraft, Minn., was elected the

Inspector-General Spink was appointed to

THE INSTALLATION.

conduct the installation. He appointed Brother

Brother Oberdorf, N. Y., paid a high compli-

Brother Abbott put in nomination Brother

Bundy were appointed to conduct Commander-

of the rules and the election of Darling by

Brother Campbell, Md., seconded Darling.

Dilley, and seconded the name of Darling.

of Buckley, and seconded Darling.

in-Chief-elect Darling to the stand.

Bro, Sorter, Kans., moved that a Committee

Bro. Griffin moved, as the sense of the Indi-

Bro. Rooney reported that some opposition

establish eligibility.

The Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief took

Gen. Walker, in accepting the gift, said that in looking into the faces of those present, he saw the full antidote to Debsism, anarchy and similar evils, which threaten the grandest and greatest of all Governments. He was greeted | Tietzie's father had been regularly in the serv-

in-Chief for the many kindnesses the Order

had received at his hands. He concluded by

PROPOSED CHANGES. The Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations presented an amended report constituting a committee to consist of the Commander-in-Chief and all the Past Commandersin-Chief to revise and amend the Constitution, against the committee's passing upon evidence Rules and Ritual, making such changes as they may deem necessary, such changes to become

The consideration of the report of the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations was resumed in the evening. Brother Maccabe made a strong argument opposing the delegation to a committee of 25 of the powers the re-The report of the committee was adopted, of ritual and other non-essentials, but he would | cided by Commander-in-Chief Webb, who held

> A question of constitutionality was raised. The Commander-in-Chief decided the matter

The appeal was decided against the Commander-in-Chief.

not concurred in."

another form. Brother Maccabe moved to three be appointed on Fraternal Relations with amend by inserting "if advisable" after "re-

with only power to report to the next National Encampment the changes desired. Brother Maccabe wanted to know what these evils were of which we have heard so much.

thing that is wrong can be remedied. Brother Griffin, Ind., said this question had come up regularly at every National Encampment for 12 years. Every year there had been amendments. These amendments had been carefully considered, and "yet we have gone on amending." He did not believe the fault | the Constitution, making eligible all male

and the Order would have a full share of it. tion. It was now going through the ills of inrespondence has been had, but nothing of im- utterly opposed to remodeling the Order upon

Dilley were appointed a committee to receive Order was going through the same sweat as the

committee. He made a good point by alluding in-Chief. Miss Syms replied very pleasantly, to Brothers Abbott's and Griffiu's enlogy on Past Commander-in-Chief Abbott replied on the uniform, and asked where were their own uniforms, both happening to be without their was introduced as the one who laid the founda- | uniforms, and the Encampment was swept with tions of the Ladies Aid Society. Brother Pat- laughter. He said that the Order began going down before the hard times set in. A number of brethren immediately pointed out that several Divisions had recently made

march forth to deeds of noble daring surpassing mittee on Peace Monuments was resumed, and strong gains under the present Constitution. print copies of the report and submit it to the | Brother Speelman moved that the Committee on C., R. and R. be discharged. Carried.

> In favor of the passage of a law by Congress promoting military instruction in the public schools. Adopted by a rising vote. Cordially praising THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE | He accepted the office in a brief speech of for the great and signal service it had done for | thanks. the Sons of Veterans. Unanimously adopted.

their successful efforts to make the 16th Na-Commander Soule, on behalf of the Maine

Division, presented a portrait of Past Comthe Commander-in-Chief seemed to involve the | mander-in-Chief Frank P. Merrill, who was the first Commander-in-Chief of the Order. Past Commander-in-Chief Maccabe responded with a fitting eulogy of Brother Merrill, and

Indiana, G.A.R., was presented and received with applause. The Encampment adjourned till 9 to-morrow morning.

THIRD DAY.

Use of the Ritual Made Optional Tietzie Case-Omaha for the Next Encampment. Election of National Officers. Indianapolis, Ind., Saturday, Sept. 11, 1897.

The Encampment was called to order at 9 Brother Sisson made the report of the COMMITTEE ON RITUAL.

It contained a number of recommendations from the various Divisions as to changes in the ritual. The committee reported adversely to the

proposition to return to the old ritual. Ap-In favor of the uniform exemplification of ritual work, and that the Commander-in-Chief | degree creditable to the Order. should issue cards for instruction. Approved. ritual is far superior to the one which it sus- stalling Officer. pended, and yet it is weak in places, and lacks framatic action and force. It can be greatly thanks. improved in these respects, and a committee of three should be appointed to revise the ritual

and report at the next National Encampment. The committee recommended that the ballot be omitted from the degrees of Charity and Loyalty, believing that one ballot should be suffering woman. Address Mabel E. Rush, Joliet, Illa.

PENSION POINTERS.

Brother Abbott, from the Committee on Re- Inquiries Answered and Suggestions Made.

G. F. R., Bannock City, Mont, -The Missouri Militia, including the Washington County Battalion-enlisted for six months in accordance with Gov. Gamble's proclamation of Aug. 24, 1861, calling for 10,000 cavalry and 32,000 infantry "for the purpose of maintaining the power of the Federal Government" and of the loyal State Government within the State-is regarded as not coming within the pension laws, except for disability from wounds or injury incurred "in any engagement with the rebels or Indians," a claim for pension on account of which was prosecuted to a successful issue before July 4, 1874. Teamsters and other employees of the Quartermaster's Department of the Army are not regarded as within the command, and the Commander-in-Chief took pension laws, except under the same conditions he floor to reply to the recommendation of the

committee in the matter of Fremont Tietzie, H. C., Surprise, Mo .- It is not believed that whom the Commander-in-Chief had decided to affidavits or other papers filed as evidence in be ineligible. The committee reported that the Pension Bureau are ever intentionally lost new evidence had been presented showing that or destroyed, no matter how unfriendly the ice. The Commander-in-Chief contended that | Administration may be or appear to be toward pension claimants. There are pleaty of exall the evidence showed that Bell's Troop of planations for official calls for evidence which Cavalry had never been in the service of the United States, but only in that of the State of claimants have previously furnished, or consider they have furnished, without attributing Pennsylvania. If this was admitted it would such calls to the destruction of evidence in the carry with it thousands of others. He protested Pension Bureau. A claimant's attorney, or his member of Cougress, or the claimant himself, may examine the files of his case in the Pension Bureau and ascertain just what evidence is on file, and a properly-directed inquiry by Brother Russell defended the action of the mail is pretty sure to bring information as to ommittee. He insisted that the case did not why a call is made for testimony which the claimant has already sent.

tled on its merits. He claimed that the con-A. C. P., Stevens Point, Wis .- In theory, at stitution nowhere required a United States least, the special examination of a pension claim is conducted with a view to determining the Union army; that was sufficient. He cited its merits and securing to the claimant the pension, if he is entitled to the same. In times past it has frequently appeared as though a special examination were had to find some der United States officers was sufficient to ground for the rejection of the claim, but it is believed that under the present Administration the theory above mentioned will be most one important distinction. In the McCrillis not a constitutional question, and an appeal | case the discharge showed that payment was | thoroughly put into practice, as is evidenced by made by a United States Paymaster, while in several decisions and other official action

already taken. the Tietzie case it was made by a State Pay-Subscriber, Alleghany City, Pa.-Sec. 4747, Revised Statutes, provides that "no sum of money Bro. Bundy moved that the decision of the due, or to become due, to any pensioner shall Commander-in-Chief be sustained. A probe liable to attachment, levy, or seizure by or longed debate ensued, which resulted in a rollunder any legal or equitable process whatever, call and 91 votes in support of the Commanderwhether the same remains with the Pension Office, or any officer or agent thereof, or is in The Committee reported in favor of the course of transmission to the pensioner entitled matter of sick benefits being left optional with thereto, but shall inure wholly to the benefit of

such pensioner." A. B. E., Lake Benton, Minn, -When a pension Bro. Reed reported a number of routine res- claimant is repeatedly informed, at intervals of several months, that his claim is being con-Bro. Dustin moved that a Committee of sidered with a view to its final disposition, it is possible that the continued delay is occasioned by the failure of witnesses in the case to respond to letters of inquiry sent them, or the delay may be occasioned by the slowness of the Special Examination Division to promptly inhad been developed against the bill drafted by stitute inquiries as to standing of witnesses. G. F., Karlsruhe, Germany.—Seven months is not an unusually long time for action on a pension claim under the general law after the completing proofs are filed. The claim is more likely to be awaiting action a year than to be

acted upon within six months after the last evidence is filed. M. S., Grants Mills, N. Y.—There is no pension law allowing more than \$12 per month for disability not proven as of service origin. The Encampment. Adopted by a unanimous rising highest rate allowable under the act of June 27, 1890, is \$12 per month, no matter how great the degree of disability.

D. M. K., Rolla, Mo. - A widow pension claimof Five be appointed to consider the plan of ant is required to show the death or divorce of erecting a Memorial Colfege as a monument to the soldier's former wife, but she need not show his marriage to his former wife. It is permissible to obtain evidence so far as possible to establish a widow's claim during the lifetime of the soldier, and such evidence when filed after the soldier's death would be considered in support of the widow's claim if the persons giving the evidence be still living. Subscriber, Wilkes-Barre, Pa. -- Five months is

honorably discharged, or who are still in the not an unusually long period for a claim for PLACE OF HOLDING THE NEXT ENCAMPMENT. | increase of pension to be awaiting action after medical examination. L. K. Parks was given an opportunity to C. H. M., Denver, Colo.-The \$100 bounty present the claims of Put-in Bay. He pointed out that 84 years ago yesterday the fortunes of provided by the acts of April 22, 1872, and July 20, 1888, for three-years volunteers enlisted the United States were at their lowest ebb. before July 22; 1861, is not an additional or Defeat had overtaken us everywhere, when Commodore Perry sailed out from Eric with a extra bounty. It is due only those who enfleet that he had built, and won one of the listed as stated and did not become entitled to greatest victories in the history of naval war- bounty under the act of July 22, 1861, by reason of their being discharged before two years' fare. Next year it was proposed to have a grand celebration of that victory at Put-in Bay. service for reasons other than wounds or injury

described the magnificent hotel which had | incurred in the service and line of duty. Subscriber, Chama, N. M. - The records of all been built there, and earnestly invited the hospitals in charge of Government officers during the war are on file in the Record and Brother Kennedy, Colo., placed Denver in Pension Office of the War Department, but in many instances the records are very incom-Brother Coates, Neb., presented the invitaplete. In considering a pension claim filed tion of Omaha from all the organizations of the under the general law for disability of service origin, the Pension Bureau calls upon the War After the ballot began Brother Bundy and Department for such information of record as Brother Kennedy withdrew the nominations relates to the soldier, using as a guide the alleof Put-in Bay and Denver, and moved that the

gations made as to the hospitals in which treatment was had during service. M. A. J., Dayton, O.—The reference to a law of "Feb. 4, 1897," in this column in the issue of Aug. 26, 1897, is a mistake of the types. The law referred to is that of Feb. 24, 1897, which

has already been published. H. K., Franklinton, N. Y.-Mounted Orderlies at Division Headquarters were not "messengers" within the meaning of the extraduty pay provisions of the act of March 3, 1863. The "messengers" were employed in a semiclerical capacity. No evidence need accompany the filing of an application for increase

of pension in the Pension Bureau. W. P., Pueblo, Colo .- At a recent date the total number of persons drawing invalid pension on account of service or disability incurred since March 4, 1861, was 714,908. The average value per annum of all pensions is about \$133. D. M. D., Richland, S. D.—It is impossible to say within what period after medical examination a claimant for increase of pension on pensioned disabilities may expect action by the Pension Bureau on his case. When a claimant for pension under the general law has a disability for which a rating of \$12 per month is prescribed by the official practice, and another for which a rating of \$25 is in like manner pre scribed, his rating on the allowance of his claim will not exceed \$25 unless it is shown that he is so disabled by pensioned disabilities as to be

ment to the entertainment given the Encamp- unable to perform any manual labor of any sort. ment by Indianapolis, and nominated as a His rating would then be \$30. J. R., Valley Falls, N. Y .- A claim for increase of pension can hardly be changed into a claim for rerating of pension. A specific claim for rerating is in general necessary to

secure a rerating of pension. J. L., Randall, Wis .- No bounty-land is granted for service since March 3, 1855. Mrs. L. J. S., San Pedro, Cal. - For tombstones to mark soldiers' graves, address the Quartermaster-General, U. S. A., War Department, Washington, D. C.

E. C., Springdale, W. Va.-If a claim for rerating is granted, the rerating should cover at least some portion of the period for which the rerating is claimed antedating the filing of the application. The rerating claims are considered in the different adjudicating divisions of the Pension Bureau, the same as original claims for pension.

W. H. S., West Philadelphia, Pa .- Invalid pension granted under the act of June 27, 1890, should commence from the date of filing of the first application under the act. Nothing could be clearer than the terms of the act of March 6. 1896, on this point.

E. P. S., St. Mary's, W. Va.-A physician is not eligible to appointment as a member of a Board of Examining Surgeons at a place outside the State in which he resides. L. C., Waterville, Me.-A member of one of

the National Homes residing outside may draw retiring Commander-in-Chief. Gen. Rake rerations for himself, but not for his family. J. B. H., Chicago, Ill .- After a medical ex-Brother Bundy made a very happy little amination is had the official order for the same should be returned to the Pension Bureau. It serves as a notice to the Bureau that the examination has been had, and will insure a call on the Board for a report if the Board is tardy in making returns. A competent attorney will always earn his fee in a pension claim. Comparatively few claimants are qualified to conduct their own cases-not from a lack of ordinary intelligence, but from a lack of experience in and knowledge of the practice and

requirements of the Pension Bureau. L. F. B., Prescott, Ark .- There are certain classes of claims against the Government that have to wait an appropriation by Congress after being passed and adjudged valid and as established by the evidence submitted. Many such

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notably true of property claims growing out of the late war and Indian depredations claims. W. L. S., Ballimore,-The rate for "total disability" of service origin in the late war for officers above the rank of Major is \$30. A person cannot draw pension for Mexican war service and pension for service or disability in the late war at the same time, even though he may have title to pension from both wars.

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subject, and was loudly applauded.

who died in Andersonville.

Adopted.

operative upon adoption. The Encampment took a recess till 4 o'clock.

port of the committee would give it. He was in favor of giving a larger option in the matter | a similar case of Col. McCrillis, of Illinois, denot for an instant favor giving a committee the | that service in the State troops performed unright to alter the fundamental law of the

was taken. Brother Noble, Kan., rose to a question of high privilege. It was that the Commandery. | master. in-Chief could not divest itself of its sovereignty, and confer the same upon a committee.

in-Chief and 85 against. Brother Griffin moved that the first recommendation be laid on the table. Changed to Brother Morgan offered as a substitute that | the Camps. Adopted. a committee of five be appointed to revise the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, and report at the next National Encampment. Ruled | olutions. out on a point of order. Reintroduced in

Brother Patton, Minn., moved as a substitute the original proposition for a committee of 25

They should be named and specified; the Constitution should not be torn up without reason. Brother Morgan, from the Committee on Constitution, Rules and Regulations, said the object of the committee was to answer the numerous complaints that had reached them from every source, by referring the whole matter to a committee of tried and true brethren, who would carefully consider it outside the pressure and turmoil of the National Eucampment, and formulate a plan by which the some-

lay with the Constitution. If the committee now proposed was appointed, it would as sure as the sun rose recommend the abolition of the military feature. He was determinedly op- service. Adopted, posed to it. He was strongly in favor of the old blue coat and brass buttons which his father wore. Every man in blue and brass buttons who was in the street was a lesson in patriotism. He wanted the Constitution let alone. The trouble with the Order was the financial depression of the last few years. The country was now entering upon a period of prosperity, Brother Abbott, Ill., expressed similar views. The Constitution would not bring men into the Order. It grew before it had a Constitution. It would grow again in spite of the Constitu-

portance done. The committee recommeded | the form of the Sons of the Revolution, the the formation of a society entitled "The Na- Loyal Legion, or any other Order. It had fional Sons of Veterans Battlefield Monument | more members to-day than either of them, and Brother Parkinson said that what was wanted was recruiting officers for every Camp. The

G.A.R. did before 1878. It would emerge as Miss Anna Syms, Laura Martin, Mrs. M. R. | triumphantly. The Constitution was all right; Brother Morgan closed the debate for the

> The recommendation was declared lost, THE COMMITTEE ON RESOLUTIONS

Thanking the Governor of Indiana, Past Thanking Commander-in-Chief Rake for his

Commander Dodge, of the Department of

Parkinson Acting Inspector-General, who brought the officers-elect before the altar. They were then installed according to the prescribed ritual. The Commander-in-Chief announced as his

plied fittingly and gracefully.

accepted with thanks.

of the Council-in-Chief.

third member.

staff:

ber of the Council-in-Chief.

Dr. Dan S. Gardner, Ohio, Surgeon-General. Harry L. Venzy, Ala, Chaplain-in-Chief. PORTRAIT OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF RAKE. In a brief but very grateful speech Brother Reed, Pa., presented the Encampment with an excellent portrait of Gen. J. L. Rake. He also presented a beautiful and costly badge to the

Fred E. Bolton, Mass., Adjutant-General.

J. Frank Durston, N. Y., Inspector-General.

Ed. K. Gould, Me. Judge-Advocate-General.

speech in accepting the picture for the Order. He eulogized Gen. Rake's Administration as able, untiring, devoted, and in the highest A resolution of thanks was passed to Past The committee believes that the present Inspector-General Spink for his services as In-The Council-in-Chief received a vote of

The Encampment then adjourned.

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